

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SCCT-01 SY-05 SCSE-00 SCA-01

OMB-01 AID-05 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 /080 R

DRAFTED BY AF/E:RSBARRETT:SEH

APPROVED BY AF/E:RSBARRETT

AF/P:JPOPE

S/CCT:MR. FEAREY

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

COMNAVTEL COM PRIORITY

NAVCOMUNIT ASMARA PRIORITY

NAVCOMSTA NEA MAKRI PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: PINS ET

SUBJECT:CISCO TWO: UPI STORY: ELF STATEMENT IN DAMASCUS

1. FOLLOWING ITEM WAS CARRIED ON ULI WIRES AT 11:55 AED
AUGUST 8: QTE DAMASCUS -- TWO AMERICANS KIDNAPPED BY

ETHIOPIAN GUERRILLAS LAST MONTH HAVE BEEN PUT ON TRIAL TO
FACE CHARGES OF SUBVERSION, A GUERRILLA SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY
THE AMERICANS, STEPHEN CAMPBELL AND JAMES HARRELL, WERE
ABDUCTED IN ETHIOPIA LAST JULY 14 BY MEMBERS OF THE REVOLU-
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TIONARY COUNCIL OF THE ERITREAN LIBERATION FRONT.

A SPOKESMAN IN DAMASCUS FOR THE GROUP SAID IT HAS NO INTENTION OF RELEASING THE PAIR UNLESS THEY ARE FOUND INNOCENT AT THEIR TRIAL BEFORE A "REVOLUTIONARY COURT". HE DID NOT INDICATE WHAT PUNISHMENT THEY WOULD FACE IF FOUND GUILTY.

"THE TWO AMERICANS ARE ON TRIAL ON CHARGES OF ACTS HARMFUL TO OUR REVOLUTION AND IF FOUND GUILTY, WILL BE PUNISHED ACCORDING TO THE RULES OF THE ERITREAN REVOLUTION², THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"WE HAVE NO INTENTION OF ASKING FOR RANSOM OR MAKING ANY FORM OF DEMANDS IN RETURN FOR THEIR RELEASE", HE SAID. THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE DECISION TO REFER THE TWO AMERICANS FOR TRIAL WAS MADE AFTER "LENGTHY INTERROGATIONS". HE DID NOT ELABORATE. UNQTE KISSINGER

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